

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-20 are pending. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended. Support for the amendments to claim 1 can be found, for example, in the present specification at paragraphs [0036] and [0041], and in previously presented claim 1. No new matter is added. In view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

A. Ikeda and Fukuoka

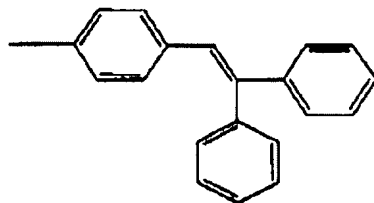
The Office Action rejects claims 1-5 and 8-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over WO 03/087023 to Ikeda et al. ("Ikeda")* in view of JP 2003-272857 to Fukuoka et al. ("Fukuoka"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 1 is set forth above. Ikeda and Fukuoka do not disclose or suggest such a device.

Claim 1 requires a light emitting layer including a compound according to formulae (I) to (IX). The Office Action relies on Ikeda for its disclosure of compounds (A-1), (A-2), and (B-10). *See* Office Action, page 7; Ikeda, paragraph [0046]. In particular, the Office Action asserts that compounds (A1) and (A2) fall within the scope of formula (I) of claim 1 and compound (B-10) falls within the scope of formula (II) of claim 1. *See* Office Action, pages 7 to 9.

Applicants believe that some confusion may have arisen with regard to the following group:

* Discussion of Ikeda is made with reference to U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2005/0214565, which the Office Action asserts is an English-language equivalent of Ikeda.



The Office Action asserts that the above-identified group is an unsubstituted aryl group in compounds (A-1) and (A-2) of *Ikeda* (see Office Action, page 8, lines 2 and 5 to 6), and a substituted aryl group in compound (B-10) of *Ikeda* (see Office Action, page 8, lines 9 to 11). Applicants submit that the above-identified group is a substituted aryl group. In particular, the above-identified group is a phenyl group substituted with a 3,3-diphenyl allyl group.

In *Ikeda*, the substituent in above-identified group is not identified as an aryl group at all. See *Ikeda*, paragraph [0021]. However, the substituent of the above-identified group (3,3-diphenylallyl group) is explicitly identified as an alkenyl group in *Ikeda*. See *Ikeda*, paragraph [0018]. Accordingly, by *Ikeda's* own definitions, the above-identified group is an aryl group (phenyl group) substituted with an alkenyl group (3,3-diphenylallyl group).

In the compounds of formulae (I) and (II) of claim 1, Ar¹, Ar², Ar, and Ar' may be substituted aryl groups. However, the permissible substitutions are identified in *Markush* groups. Alkenyl groups are not among the permissible substitutions. Accordingly, because the compounds (A-1), (A-2), and (B-10) include alkenyl substituted aryl groups, such compounds do not satisfy the requirements of claim 1.

As *Ikeda* fails to disclose or suggest an asymmetric compound including a condensed ring as defined in claim 1, *Ikeda* fails to disclose or suggest each and every feature of claim 1. *Fukuoka* does not remedy the deficiencies of *Ikeda*. *Fukuoka* is cited for its alleged disclosure of an organic electroluminescent device including a bluish light-emitting layer and a yellowish light-emitting layer. See Office Action, page 9. However, *Fukuoka*, like *Ikeda*,

fails to disclose or suggest an asymmetric compound including a condensed ring as defined in claim 1.

In addition, Applicants note that the device of claim 1 is shown in the present specification to provide superior performance in comparison to devices as in Fukuoka. In Example 1 of Fukuoka and Comparative Example 1 in the present specification, DPVDPAN is used as a host material. *See* Fukuoka, paragraphs [0038] to [0041]; present specification, paragraph [0084]. A comparison of Comparative Example 1 and Examples of the present specification reveals that devices according to claim 1 exhibit better thermal stability and strikingly prolonged lifetime in comparison to a device according to Comparative Example 1. *See* present specification, paragraph [0086] (Table 1).

Accordingly, the combination of Ikeda and Fukuoka fails to disclose or suggest each and every feature of claim 1.

As explained, claim 1 would not have been rendered obvious by Ikeda and Fukuoka. Claims 2-4 and 8-20 depend from claim 1 and, thus, also would not have been rendered obvious by Ikeda and Fukuoka. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

B. Ikeda, Fukuoka and Suzuki

The Office Action rejects claims 6 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Ikeda in view of Fukuoka and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0177009 to Suzuki et al. ("Suzuki"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

For the reasons discussed above, Ikeda and Fukuoka do not disclose or suggest each and every feature of claim 1. Suzuki does not remedy the deficiencies of Ikeda and Fukuoka. Suzuki is cited for its alleged disclosure of an organic luminescent device including an asymmetric pyrene compound. *See* Office Action, page 10. However, Suzuki, like Ikeda and

Fukuoka, fails to disclose or suggest an asymmetric compound including a condensed ring as defined in claim 1. Accordingly, the combination of references fails to disclose or suggest each and every feature of claim 1.

With respect to the Office Action's assertion that Suzuki discloses a compound according to formula (V) (*see* Office Action, pages 11 to 12), Applicants submit that the Office Action's assertion is based on impermissible hindsight reasoning. In the absence of Applicants' disclosure, a skilled artisan would not attempt to modify compound 27 of Suzuki as proposed in the Office Action.

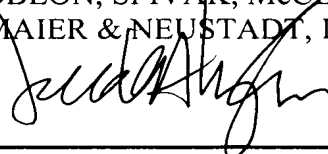
As explained, claim 1 would not have been rendered obvious by Ikeda, Fukuoka and Suzuki. Claims 6 and 7 depend from claim 1 and, thus, also would not have been rendered obvious by Ikeda, Fukuoka and Suzuki. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that claims 1-20 are in condition for allowance. Prompt reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, L.L.P.



Richard L. Treanor
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 36,379

Jacob A. Doughty
Registration No. 46,671

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413-2220
(OSMMN 07/09)